

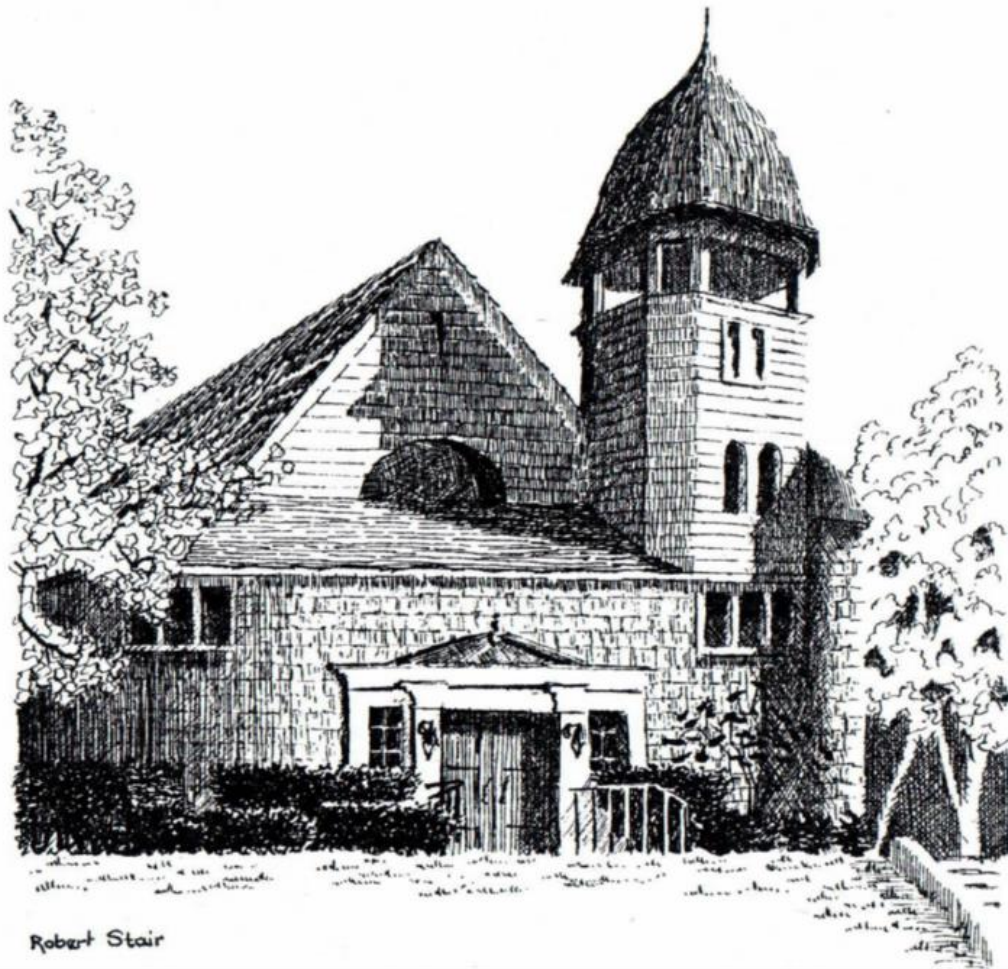
# WELCOME TO WORSHIP

**“9<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST”**

**July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Dallas United Methodist Church**

**Liturgical Color – Green**



## TODAY'S CENTERING MEDITATION

*“The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed”*

*“The kingdom of heaven is like yeast”*

*“The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure”*

*“The kingdom of heaven is like a merchant”*

*“The kingdom of heaven is like a net”*

(Matthew 13:31a, 33a, 44a, 45a, 47a)

\* Please stand in stature or in heart as you are able.

WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

OPENING PRAYER

**Lord of mustard seeds and yeast,  
we come to you this day, seeking your Word and will for us.  
Make us people who care deeply about the well-being of others.  
Give us courage to be yeast for the rising of hope and peace throughout the world.  
Open our hearts to your redeeming love, for we ask this in Christ's Name. Amen.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

**The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed.  
It is a small seed, but has some surprises in store for us.  
When it is grown, it is a very large shrub.  
Even the birds can find places in its branches for their nests.  
God's transforming love begins in small ways to enter our hearts.  
Lord, plant those amazing seeds of transforming love in us  
that they may grow into deeds of service to others in your name. Amen.**

We believe in the final triumph of righteousness  
and in the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God,

Remind us that we are loved when we find ourselves unlovable.

Remind us that there is hope when all we see around us makes us despair.

Remind us that you sent the Prince of Peace when war and violence overwhelm.

Remind us that you are the merciful judge when injustice seems to prevail.

Remind us that you give us all we need to do your work in the world.

Remind us that you give us grace so that we can be your people.

We confess our doubt, and trust in your love. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PARDON

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*(A Statement of Faith of the Korean Methodist Church)*

We believe in the one God,

creator and sustainer of all things, Father of all nations,  
the source of all goodness and beauty, all truth and love.

We believe in Jesus Christ, God manifest in the flesh,  
our teacher, example and Redeemer, the Savior of the world.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
God present with us for guidance, for comfort, and for strength.

We believe in the forgiveness of sins,  
in the life of love and prayer,  
and in grace equal to every need.

We believe in the Word of God contained in the Old and New Testaments  
as the sufficient rule both of faith and of practice.

We believe in the church,  
those who are united in the living Lord for the purpose of worship and service.

We believe in the reign of God  
as the divine will realized in human society, and in the family of God,

\* *Glory Be to the Father*

# 70

\* *Seek Ye First*

# 405 (verses 1, 2, 1)

CHILDREN'S CHAT

*More Precious than Silver*

# 2065 (twice)

*I Love You, Lord*

# 2068 (twice)

TIME OF PRAYER / THE LORD'S PRAYER / THREE-FOLD AMEN :

*(Ecumenical Text)*

God of surprising love,

you have called us to be your treasures,

to be those who love and serve you by helping meet the needs of others.

Jesus reminded us that we were like mustard seeds

that could grow into mighty shelters for those who felt abandoned;

that we were like yeast placed in flour

which causes the whole dough to rise and to be fruitful for the nourishment of God's people,

that we are also nets, cast into the unknown sea,

gathering people for the Lord that they might be healed and saved.

You place so much hope and trust in us.

Please help us not to fail you.

We bring before you this day persons and situations which need your healing love.

Help us to be vehicles of that word for these dear ones.

Give us courage and empower us to serve you boldly and joyfully,

This we pray in the name of Christ, who taught us to pray these words ...

Our Father in Heaven ... hallowed be your name,

**your kingdom come ... your will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins ... as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial ... and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom ... the power ... and the glory are yours ... now and forever. Amen.**

GOD'S WORD FOR US:

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

*(The Liturgist says: "This is the Word of God for ALL people" ... AND ... the People respond: "Thanks BE to God")*

TODAY'S MESSAGE: **"KINGDOM FAITH GROWS WHEN WE ARE FAITHFUL"**

PRAYER OF PETITION

**O God,**

**teach us not to despise small things.**

**Remind us that the kingdom of heaven is like a tiny mustard seed.**

**Turn our attention to the small things that bless others.**

**You have planted seeds of great potential in our souls.**

**Help us develop our potential**

**so that you and others can depend on it.**

**Turn our attention to what is small but potent.**

**O God,**

**you have entrusted us with gifts and graces that can bless many people.**

**Help us not to overlook the smallest ability.**

**O God,**

**you have placed the destiny of the kingdom of heaven inside of us.**

**Turn our attention to the small things**

**that we, Dallas United Methodist Church,**

**can do to make a tremendous difference in human lives. Amen.**

\* OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD ...

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow ... # 94*

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Thank you, God,**

**for your unlimited generosity.**

**Thank you, God,**

**for giving us the opportunity to share the bounty you have given us**

**for the ministries of Dallas United Methodist Church**

**that Christ's redeeming love may be known to all people.**

**Lord, receive our gifts and our lives.**

**Cause all of these blessings to work for you**

**in this world which you have loaned to us for safekeeping.**

**In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.**

\* *Bringing in the Sheaves*

(on insert)

\* BENEDICTION

\* *Hymn of Promise*

# 707

***"We prove our faith in Christ,  
not by the rules we keep,  
but by the love we give."***

- Jon Walker

***"Faith that is never challenged  
makes for a pretty weak faith."***

- John Fisher

## **THIS WEEK'S DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS**

Monday ... Deuteronomy 7:6-14  
Tuesday ... Exodus 16:1-21  
Wednesday ... Romans 8:31-39  
Thursday ... 2 Corinthians 5:16-21  
Friday ... Colossians 1:1-4  
Saturday ... Revelation 19:1-10  
Sunday ... Exodus 12:1-14 ... Psalm 143:1-10  
... Romans 8:31:39 ... Matthew 14:13-21  
... Romans 8:26-30 ... Matthew 13:44-52

*Though we cannot think alike, may we not love alike?  
May we not be of one heart, though we are not of one opinion?*

*Without all doubt, we may.  
Herein all the children of God may unite,  
notwithstanding these smaller differences."*

- John Wesley

## **THANK YOU**

*Dear Scholarship Committee,  
Thank you for selecting me to receive the Linda Akers Memorial Scholarship.  
I am blessed to have such strong support from our church communities.  
Your generous gift will help with my expenses at West Chester University,*

*Sincerely, Elle Young*

## **INFORMATION FOR YOU**

**CHURCH MEMBERSHIP** ... if you would like to know more about what it means to be a "professing member" of Dallas United Methodist Church, please contact the church office or Pastor Dave. He would be glad to talk with you about this very important step in your faith journey.

**PRAYER WITH OUR DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT** ... Join our DS, Rev. Judy Walker, and other laity and clergy from across our Scranton Wilkes-Barre District Supervisory Area for 30 minutes of intentional prayer on Wednesday mornings starting at 7:45 AM. Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89722373231?pwd=YUIBRm1ya1U0OWZ2dlIIVNFJsdXM4UT09>

**BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY CALENDAR** ... We have a calendar on the bulletin board in the entranceway for you to mark down birthdays and anniversaries.

**ALTAR FLOWER SPONSORS NEEDED** ... The cost to sponsor the weekly ALTAR FLOWERS in "HONOR" of or in "MEMORY" of someone is \$50.00 ... There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the entranceway for you to do so.

**WORSHIP BULLETIN SPONSORS NEEDED** ... The cost to sponsor the weekly WORSHIP BULLETIN in "HONOR" of or in "MEMORY" of someone is \$10.00 ... There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the entranceway for you to do so.

**PASTOR ON VACATION** ... Pastor Dave will be on vacation from Wednesday, August 9<sup>th</sup>, through Wednesday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>. If any pastoral emergencies arise during this time, please call Dottie at the church office (570-675-0122) or Patti DelGaudio (570-301-3525). They will then contact the pastor caring for such emergencies.

**GUEST SPEAKERS** ... August 13<sup>th</sup> – Carol Rosser (Certified Lay Speaker from Maple Grove UMC) ... August 20<sup>th</sup> – Rev. Dr. Bill Lewis

## MINISTRY & MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

*“Do all the good you can,  
By all the means you can,  
In all the ways you can,  
In all the places you can,  
At all the times you can,  
To all the people you can,  
As long as ever you can.”*

- John Wesley

**BACK-MOUNTAIN FOOD BANK** ... We have a shopping cart in the Mission Area of the Prayer Room to place your non-perishable food item contributions. This ministry is hosted / located at Trucksville UMC.

**COMMUNITY CARE CABINET** ... Works in cooperation with the BACK-MOUNTAIN FOOD PANTRY. Personal Care items are needed for this ministry. This ministry is hosted / located at Shavertown UMC. We have a container on the table in the Mission Area of the Prayer Room to place your contributions for this ministry.

**RUTH’S PLACE** ... Ruth’s Place needs the following items (all sizes) for women ... pajamas ... sweatpants ... T-shirts ... flip flops ... feminine hygiene products. We have a container for your donations on our Mission Table in the Prayer Room.

**SHOEMAKER HUB** ... collects household items (dishes, glasses, small appliances, etc.). We have a container for your donations on our Mission Table in the Prayer Room. **Please note that the HUB currently has a need for dresser-type furniture and kitchen tables.**

*“I cannot do everything,  
but I can do something.  
And I will not let what I cannot do  
interfere with what I can do.”*

- Edward Everett Hale

**DALLAS UMC STREAMING TEAM MEMBERS NEEDED** ... We hope to expand our Streaming Team in order to give team members a break. No experience is necessary. We will train you. If you or someone you know (adult or teenager) would be interested in this ministry opportunity, please ask them to contact Pastor Dave. Interested persons need not be members of this church.

**QUILTING GROUP # 1** ... will meet this Tuesday from 1:00 PM until 4:00 PM. This group meets in the Wesley Room making “ugly sleeping bags” for MY BROTHERS KEEPER MINISTRIES. For more information please contact Judy Donlin (570-675-2693).

**QUILTING GROUP # 2** ... will meet this Wednesday from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM. Please bring your own lunch. This group meets in the Wesley Room making “PROJECT DJ QUILTS” (for ill children) and “QUILTS OF VALOR” (for veterans). For more information please contact Judy Donlin (570-675-2693).

**BLOOD DRIVE** ... Our next RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE will be **Friday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, from 1:00 PM until 5:30 PM.** If you are able, please donate here. You can schedule your appointment online at [www.redcross.org/give-blood](http://www.redcross.org/give-blood) . [If you can volunteer to help welcome donors or help with the canteen, please contact our church office.](#)